Contact Information: Smith County Republican Executive Committee Craig Licciardi Chair, Precinct 79



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## SMITH COUNTY REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VOTES ON RESOLUTION TO REMOVE CHAIR FOR ABANDONMENT OF OFFICE

At a Special Meeting called to address the issue of the Smith County GOP Chair's

- repeated absence from scheduled meetings,
- multiple, continued financial irregularities,
- failure to communicate with the executive committee, and committee chairs
- · ignoring the party's critical business needs,

the Executive Committee, by a majority vote, found the county chair in violation of the Texas Election Code Title 10 Subtitle B, 171.029, Abandonment of Office, as well as the Republican Party of Texas Rule 8(j) and 8(k). Pursuant to the election code and the RPT Rule, this resolution/demand letter will be sent via certified U.S. mail to the Officials Committee of the State Republican Executive Committee, along with detailed substantiating documentation supporting the vote to approve the resolution.

A summary of that documentation is as follows:

- There have been five consecutive meetings in which Mr. Thompson has been absent since last summer, not including the State Convention.
- When Mr. Thompson left the country last summer, he failed to delegate authority to anyone to sign checks.
- As a result, the rent on the headquarters ended up four months in arrears.
- Additionally, the office phone line was disconnected more than once due to nonpayment, including at a critical time during the 2018 election cycle.
- Financial records have been in disarray since Mr. Thompson's first election in 2016 and continue to be in disarray to the present.
  - No transparency regarding sources of occasional deposits
  - Financial audit (required per party bylaws) has been impossible to conduct due to absence
    of required documentation, lack of record-keeping, and lack of transparency
- Locks to the headquarters office were changed, unannounced, and previous keyholders were specifically declined being given duplicate keys.
- If an existing committee chair requires access to the office, they currently must call Mr.
   Thompson's wife or mother-in-law to come open (and close) the office.
- Duplicate keys were given to the Sen. Cruz campaign rep and Gov. Abbott campaign rep, but not
  our local state representative, until well into the election cycle.
- In June 2018, after discussing plans for the upcoming State Republican Convention, Mr. Thompson failed to communicate to the executive committee that he would not be present to lead our delegation at the convention.
- Mr. Thompson has not communicated directly with the executive committee for well over six months.